

Message Text

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FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMB. LEARSON

FROM US LOSDEL

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: LOS: DAILY REPORT FOR THE SECRETARY

1. COMMITTEE I: COMMITTEE I MET IN FORMAL ON-THE-RECORD SESSION TO REVIEW THE REPORT OF ITS INFORMAL "WORKSHOP" CO-CHAIRMAN. HARDLINE STATEMENTS WERE MADE BY ALGERIA AND IRAQ AND IMMEDIATELY COUNTERED SHARPLY BY SENEGAL, IVORY COAST, CAMEROON AND GUATEMALA. THESE NEW FOUND VOCAL MODERATES MADE SPECIFIC REFERENCES TO THE SECRETARY'S VISIT AND HIS PROPOSALS DESCRIBING THEM AS INTERESTING, WORTH EXPLORING AND NEEDING ELABORATION. THEY CALLED FOR NEW PROCEDURES AT THE NEXT SESSION WITH A VIEW TOWARD FINDING "POLITICALLY REALISTIC COMPROMISES."

2. IN PRIVATE, IRAQ TOLD US C-I REP THAT HE PERSONALLY, AND HIS GOVERNMENT, COULD ACCEPT THE RSNT BUT THAT IT HAD COME TO THE COMMITTEE TOO FAST WITHOUT ENOUGH GROUNDWORK BEING LAID AND THEREFORE WAS NOT "DIGESTIBLE." HE URGED THAT THE US COME UP WITH NEW COSMETIC FORMULAS WHICH COULD BE PAINTED AS CONCESSION TO THE 77 AND PROMISED FULL SUPPORT OF THE ARAB GROUP IF WE DID SO.

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HE MADE THESE COMMENTS IN THE PRESENCE OF PERU (SPOKES-

MAN FOR THE GROUP OF 77). THESE LAST MINUTE STATEMENTS OF BOTH THE MODERATES IN PUBLIC AND THE EXTREMISTS IN PRIVATE ARE VERY DIFFICULT TO EVALUATE. THEY MAY BE STATEMENTS REFLECTING A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE LIMITS OF OUR FLEXIBILITY AND A WILLINGNESS TO CARRY OUT SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS AT THE NEXT SESSION. ON THE OTHER HAND, THEY MAY BE DESIGNED TO DETER US UNILATERAL LEGISLATION. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO KNOW.

3. COMMITTEE II: GROUP OF FIVE IS TAKING FIRM ACTION TO TRY TO HEAD OFF CHAIRMAN AGUILAR FROM SETTING UP NEGOTIATING GROUP STRAITS. WE HAVE INDICATED PRIVATELY TO MALAYSIA THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO HAVE BILATERAL DISCUSSION WITH THEM DURING INTERSESSIONAL PERIOD IF THEY HEAD OFF FORMATION OF CONFERENCE NEGOTIATING GROUP WHICH WOULD BE DOMINATED BY EXTREMISTS.

4. COMMITTEE III. AUSTRALIAN REP HAS TOLD US HE HAS RECEIVED GOOD RESPONSE TO HIS COMPROMISE PROPOSAL ON SCIENTIFIC RESERACH FROM A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES. AUSTRALIAN REP EXPECTS TO PUT HIS PROPOSAL FORWARD IN TODAY'S COMMITTEE III MEETING AND HOPES TO GET SUPPORT OR AT LEAST EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FROM A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES.

5. DISPUTE SETTLEMENT: A CONCERTED ATTACK WAS LAUNCHED BY THE SOVIET UNION, FRANCE AND ISRAEL ON A POSITION AUTHORIZING INTERVENTION BY CONTRACTING PARTIES IN ANY DISPUTE RELATING TO THE INTERPRETATION OF THE CONVENTION. ONE FAVORABLE REASON FOR ISRAEL'S ATTACK WAS FEAR THAT A LARGE GROUP OF STATES MIGHT TRY TO GANG UP ON AN UN-POPULAR COUNTRY. THE SOVIET UNION AND ISRAEL DO NOT LIKE ENHANCING THE STATUS OF THE LOS TRIBUNAL BY GIVING IT POWERS WHICH CANNOT BE EXERCISED BY SPECIAL COMMISSIONS.
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